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The Nation

A Banker-Spy Deserts Poland

Polish banking and Polish espionage suffered simultaneous blows last week when Andrzej Treumann, who divided his life between the two activities, was discovered to have defected to the United States with his wife and daughter.

Mr. Treumann, in protective custody in the Washington area, was the highest ranking Polish banker here although Western bankers might not think this amounted to much. As North American representative of Bank Handlowy, he spent much of his time managing Poland's \$26-billion debt to the West. In July, shortly before he was due to return to Warsaw, he vanished from his Manhattan office and his home in Flushing, Queens. A month later the bank gave laconic notice that he had "terminated his activities."

Probably of greater interest to the Central Intelligence Agency was Mr. Treumann's role as a highly placed spy for Polish intelligence which, officials said, routinely acts in conjunction with Soviet intelligence.

Meanwhile, the British may have landed an even bigger fish. Vladimir Kuzichkin, a Soviet vice-consul based in Iran, defected in what one London newspaper called the "biggest spy scoop in more than 10 years." The British might have lost a big fish, too. Geoffrey Arthur Prime, a Russian translator at a secret communications center who was arrested months ago, reportedly supplied Moscow with highly sensitive data from 1968 to 1977.